CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1461
28 May 1997

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA ADDRESSED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING TWO PUBLICATIONS ENTITLED "SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY" AND "ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND MINES BAN: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY" 1/

I have attached two publications produced by the Canadian Government, which I hope will further advance our consideration of the issues before us: "Small Arms and Light Weapons: An Annotated Bibliography" and "Anti-Personnel Land Mines Ban: An Annotated Bibliography".

I would be grateful if the necessary arrangements could be made for distribution of these two publications to all member and participating non-member state delegations, under cover of a CD number.

(Signed): Mark Moher
Permanent Representative to
the Conference on Disarmament

1/ A limited distribution of these publications in English only has been made available to the members and non-members invited to participate in the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

GE.97-61319

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1462
5 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

GROUP OF 21

Proposal on the Programme of Work

1. The Conference on Disarmament decides to establish:

   I. An Ad Hoc Committee for agenda item 1 "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament".

   II. An Ad Hoc Committee for agenda item 3 "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

   III. An Ad Hoc Committee for agenda item 4 "Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

2. The Conference decides to appoint a Special Coordinator to seek the views of its members on agenda item 6 "Comprehensive programme of disarmament" with a special reference to the issue of anti-personnel landmines.

3. The Conference also decides to appoint a Special Coordinator to seek the views of its members on agenda item 7 "Transparency in armaments".

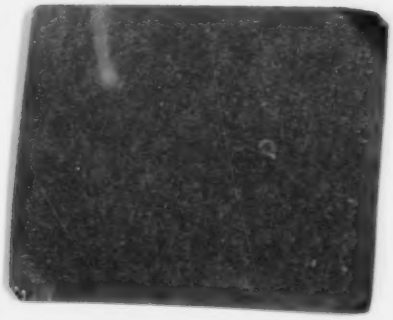
4. The Conference decides further to appoint Special Coordinators to carry out consultations on the issues of its expansion and agenda as well as improved and effective functioning.

* * * * *

The Group of 21 continues to attach the highest priority to the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament under agenda item 1.

The Group of 21 has presented on 14 March 1996 a proposal for the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, as contained in document CD/1388.

In this context, a specific proposal on a mandate for the Ad Hoc Committee will be presented in the near future.



CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

PROPERTY OF

CD/1463
12 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

ALGERIA, BANGLADESH, BRAZIL, CAMEROON, COLOMBIA, CUBA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, INDONESIA, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, IRAQ, KENYA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MYANMAR, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PERU, SENEGAL, SRI LANKA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, VENEZUELA, VIET NAM AND ZIMBABWE

Proposed mandate for an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament

The Conference decides to establish an Ad Hoc Committee under agenda item 1 on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time.

In discharging its function, the Ad Hoc Committee will take into account the Proposal for a Programme of Action for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons submitted by 28 members of the Conference belonging to the Group of 21 (CD/1419, 7 August 1996) as well as any other existing proposals and future initiatives in this regard.

The Ad Hoc Committee will establish working groups to negotiate, as a first step a universal and legally-binding multilateral agreement committing all States to the objetive of complete elimination of nuclear weapons, an agreement on further steps required in a phased programme with time frames leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and a convention on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices taking into account the report of the special coordinator on this item (CD/1299) and the views relating to the scope of the treaty.

Working Groups will report to the Ad Hoc Committee on a regular basis or as necessary on the progress of their work. The Ad Hoc Committee will report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the 1997 session.

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1464
17 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE POLICY ON ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES ISSUED ON 13 JUNE 1997

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement issued by the Italian Government on 13 June 1997 on the Policy on Anti-personnel Landmines.

I would be grateful if this text could be registered as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to all member States and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed): Giuseppe Baldoni Acqua
Ambassador

STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE POLICY ON ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES ISSUED ON 13 JUNE 1997

To integrate the measures already adopted on the ban of production and export of APLs and the initiation of their destruction, the Italian Government agreed on the opportunity to renounce to the operational use of anti-personnel landmines. The decision, which responds to the needs expressed by the internal and international public opinion, has been adopted in order to contribute to reaching a solid international understanding and a definitive solution to the problem caused by APLs.

To this end, consistently with the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly as well as with the objectives of the E.U., Italy will continue to actively operate in the framework of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and to follow the "Ottawa Process" so that - through the complementarity of the actions in the two Fora - the International community be able to design a set of effective norms supported by the largest possible number of States.

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1465
19 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

AUSTRALIA

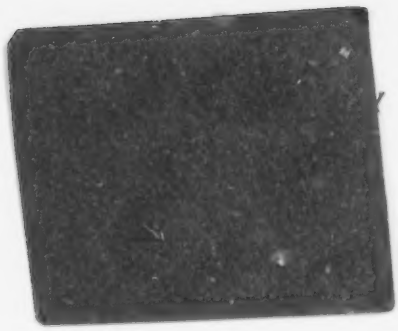
Draft Decision

Without prejudice to, and within the context of, its urgent ongoing efforts to establish a Programme of Work for its 1997 session and to set up mechanisms, as appropriate, for other agenda items of the Conference, and in order to facilitate these efforts, the Conference on Disarmament decides:

1. To appoint a Special Coordinator to conduct consultations on a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines under agenda item 6.

2. The Special Coordinator shall take into consideration all relevant proposals and views, present and future.

3. The Special Coordinator shall present an early report to the Conference on Disarmament.



GE.97-61888

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1466
26 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

DECISION

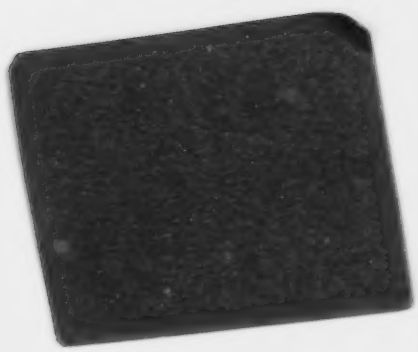
(adopted at the 770th plenary meeting on 26 June 1997)

Without prejudice to, and within the context of, its urgent ongoing efforts to establish a Programme of Work for its 1997 session and to set up mechanisms, as appropriate, for other agenda items of the Conference, and in order to facilitate these efforts, the Conference on Disarmament decides:

1. To appoint a Special Coordinator to conduct consultations on a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines under agenda item 6.

2. The Special Coordinator shall take into consideration all relevant proposals and views, present and future.

3. The Special Coordinator shall present an early report to the Conference on Disarmament.



GE.97-63073

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1467
16 July 1997

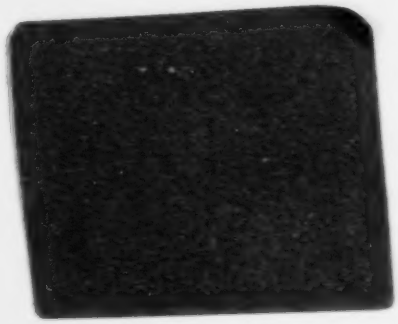
ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH and FRENCH

LETTER DATED 9 JULY 1997 ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT BY THE OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BELGIUM TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT, TRANSMITTING THE CLOSING DOCUMENT OF THE BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR A GLOBAL BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

The Office of the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to transmit below the closing document of the Brussels International Conference for a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines.

This document contains the final Declaration of the Conference and the statement introducing it made by Mr. Erik Derycke, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium. Also annexed is the report made to Mr. Erik Derycke by Mr. André Mernier, Ambassador, Secretary-General of the Conference, after the first two days.

The Office of the Permanent Representative of Belgium requests the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament to make the necessary arrangements for these documents to be circulated as official documents of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament.



DECLARATION FOR THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES

The following States met in Brussels from 24 to 27 June 1997 to pursue an enduring solution to the urgent humanitarian crisis caused by anti-personnel landmines. They are convinced that this solution must include the early conclusion of a comprehensive ban on anti-personnel landmines.

They recall that United Nations General Assembly resolution 51/45 S supported by 156 States urged the vigorous pursuit of "an effective, legally binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines".

In that spirit they affirm that the essential elements of such an agreement should include:

- a comprehensive ban on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines
- the destruction of stockpiled and removed anti-personnel landmines
- international cooperation and assistance in the field of mine clearance in affected countries.

The following States,

Encouraged by the work of the Brussels Conference,

Encouraged further by numerous national and regional initiatives and measures taken to eliminate anti-personnel landmines,

Encouraged by the attention given to this subject by the United Nations and by other forums,

Encouraged, finally, by the active support of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other non-governmental organizations,

Welcome the convening of a Diplomatic Conference by the Government of Norway in Oslo on 1 September 1997 to negotiate such an agreement;

Also welcome the important work done by the Government of Austria on the text of a draft agreement which contains the essential elements identified above and decide to forward it to the Oslo Diplomatic Conference in order to be considered together with other relevant proposals which may be put forward there;

Affirm their objective of concluding the negotiation and signing of such an agreement banning anti-personnel landmines before the end of 1997 in Ottawa;

Invite all other States to join them in their efforts towards such an agreement.

Annex 1

STATEMENT BY MR. ERIK DERYCKE, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Heads of Delegations,

Distinguished Delegates,

We are now on the point of closing the work of the Brussels Conference. It was the Conference's intention that its debates should culminate in a political declaration, the text of which was circulated well before the Conference and was familiar to everybody.

I have pleasure in announcing that today 97 countries have acceded to this Declaration and thus given their support to the objectives of the Ottawa Process, indicating their desire to arrive at a treaty by the end of December 1997.

I would fail in my duties as President if I did not underline at this decisive moment of the Brussels Conference the considerable interest many times repeated by a large number of delegations in victim assistance. I consider as President of this Conference and as Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium that this constitutes an essential element of the Ottawa Process.

The Declaration of the Brussels Conference is adopted.

The Declaration will be published, together with the statement I have just made introducing it and the list of countries that have associated themselves with it.

This Declaration, my statement and the list of countries that have associated themselves with the Declaration will be sent to you through the usual diplomatic channels.

Annex 2

LIST OF COUNTRIES ASSOCIATING THEMSELVES WITH THE POLICY DECLARATION OF THE BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR A GLOBAL BAN ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

27 June, 9.30 a.m.

1. Angola
2. Antigua and Barbuda (CARICOM)
3. Austria
4. Bahamas (CARICOM)
5. Barbados (CARICOM)
6. Belgium
7. Belize (CARICOM)
8. Benin
9. Bolivia
10. Bosnia and Herzegovina
11. Botswana
12. Brazil
13. Burkina Faso
14. Cambodia
15. Cameroon
16. Canada
17. Cape Verde
18. Chad
19. Colombia
20. Costa Rica
21. Côte d'Ivoire
22. Croatia
23. Czech Republic
24. Denmark
25. Dominica (CARICOM)
26. Ecuador
27. El Salvador
28. Ethiopia
29. Fiji
30. France
31. Gabon
32. Germany
33. Ghana
34. Grenada (CARICOM)
35. Guatemala
36. Guinea
37. Guyana (CARICOM)
38. Haiti
39. Holy See
40. Honduras
41. Hungary
42. Ireland
43. Italy
44. Jamaica (CARICOM)
45. Jordan

46. Lesotho
47. Liechtenstein
48. Luxembourg
49. Malawi
50. Malaysia
51. Mali
52. Malta
53. Mauritania
54. Mexico
55. Monaco
56. Mozambique
57. Namibia
58. Netherlands
59. New Zealand
60. Nicaragua
61. Norway
62. Panama
63. Papua New Guinea
64. Paraguay
65. Peru
66. Philippines
67. Portugal
68. Qatar
69. Republic of the Congo
70. Republic of Moldova
71. Rwanda
72. Saint Kitts and Nevis (CARICOM)
73. Saint Lucia (CARICOM)
74. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (CARICOM)
75. San Marino
76. Senegal
77. Seychelles
78. Slovakia
79. Slovenia
80. South Africa
81. Spain
82. Sudan
83. Suriname (CARICOM)
84. Swaziland
85. Sweden
86. Switzerland
87. Tanzania
88. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
89. Togo
90. Trinidad and Tobago (CARICOM)
91. Turkmenistan
92. United Kingdom
93. Uruguay
94. Venezuela
95. Yemen
96. Zambia
97. Zimbabwe

Annex 3

Brussels International Conference for a Comprehensive Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines
(24-27 June 1997)

Report by Mr. Mernier, Ambassador, on the results of the work of the first part of the Conference

Your Excellency,

Distinguished Delegates,

At the end of the first part of the Brussels International Conference for a Comprehensive Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines, I have the honour to report to you on the work of the last two days.

With more than 150 States participating, the Brussels International Conference has shown, insofar as there was any need for it, the vitality and appeal of the Ottawa Process. At this stage in the proceedings, it seems we are ready to move on from the political phase to the negotiation phase.

The Brussels Conference constitutes an important step leading up to the Diplomatic Conference which will start in Oslo on 1 September next. We are very pleased to inform you that this morning more than 79 countries have already expressed their support for the Brussels Declaration and we wish to thank all those countries for having done so. May I stress that, having put the credibility level at 45, we are pleased with this magnificent result.

Our discussions of the past two days have provided a most valuable starting point for the Oslo Diplomatic Conference, together with the draft treaty prepared by Austria, the quality of which was recognized by all.

But the purpose of our meeting here in Brussels was not to engage in an actual drafting exercise, and I have to emphasize that a number of countries have reserved both their comments and detailed language proposals for the Oslo Conference.

Nevertheless, I shall attempt to sum up the principal points which came up during the past two days. As I mentioned yesterday, this summary does not pretend to be exhaustive. You will also understand that I cannot refer to any particular national point of view. In this spirit, no country will be named, no delegation will be quoted.

One very fundamental issue pertains to the nature of the future APL-treaty and its relationship to other instruments of international law. As several delegations phrased it, should we look upon the treaty as a humanitarian act or see it as a disarmament instrument?

The first part of our debates dealt with the general obligations under our treaty. Everyone recognized that they had been spelt out quite clearly in the relevant resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, resolution 51/45 S. None of the delegations that spoke on the subject questioned the absolute necessity of including in the treaty a ban on the use, production and stockpiling of anti-personnel mines and on trade in them. No exception was envisaged in this field, except perhaps for purposes of instruction. There then arose the question of the quantity of mines that each State would be allowed to have for troop training. A consensus seems to be within reach on distinguishing here between the number per type of mines from the number as such, it being well understood that deminers have to have available to them a maximum number of types of mines, with technical characteristics that can vary considerably. In the same spirit, it seems possible to agree on an exception with regard to the trade in mines, since in many cases it will be necessary to buy a limited number of new mines abroad, always for the purpose of training deminers. The core of the treaty was thus not called in question during the debate on general obligations.

The Brussels Conference then considered definitions and exceptions. As far as definitions were concerned, the Conference remembered that a number of definitions were available in Protocol II to the Inhuman Weapons Convention, which have moreover left their mark on the Austrian draft text.

Several delegations nevertheless pointed out that those definitions could not be taken over just as they stood and that in view of the radical nature of the treaty the Ottawa Process was aiming at, the definitions available in the amended Protocol II would need to be adapted. Certain delegations also noted that the definition of "anti-personnel landmine" itself had not been taken over in extenso and that that change was not without implications, implications which would have to be weighed and studied at the Oslo Conference.

Another problem of definition which occupied delegates' attention for quite some time related to minefields and mined areas. With your permission I shall return to this matter when I deal with the problem of the destruction of mines in this context.

The Conference also concerned itself with the problem of exceptions. Obviously, some exceptions have to be allowed for. You are already familiar with two of them, since it seems we can envisage without too much difficulty an exception to the ban on stockpiling and an exception to the ban on trade, so as to enable deminers to have the number and types of mines they need for training purposes.

Other exceptions that would affect the very core of the treaty could not be introduced into the text without profoundly altering the nature of the Ottawa Process. Use and production obviously cannot be the subject of exceptions. The same is true of stockpiling and trade with the exception I have just mentioned.

We then considered the destruction of stocks, and delegations were largely agreed that this was a corollary, both essential and symbolic, of the ban on stockpiling anti-personnel mines.

The deadlines for the destruction of stocks will have to be negotiated, however, since this process obviously poses budgetary and environmental problems that are far from negligible.

The scale of these problems inevitably imposes constraints, which will vary from one country to another, on the process of fixing the necessary deadlines for compliance with this obligation. The Conference has heard from a number of delegations representing countries that are already engaged in this operation. International, or at the very least regional, cooperation to destroy existing mine stocks under the best possible conditions seems to be an essential element in the solution of this question. Here again, it might be possible to permit anti-personnel mines to be taken across frontiers in order to be destroyed without regarding it as a real exception. That would not constitute, in the proper sense, trade in or transfer of anti-personnel mines under the terms of the definition of transfer given in Protocol II. This possibility will have to be studied before provision can be made for it in the treaty.

Another aspect of the destruction of anti-personnel mines that you asked us to study is that of mines already in place. The Conference recognized that this was one of the most complex problems that the Ottawa treaty would have to resolve. The distinction between mined areas and minefields as proposed in the amended Protocol II, while it is a useful guide, needs to be taken further and made more precise. Some delegations also pointed out that the need to deal with mines in place would have to be weighed against the cost. The cost to be considered is not just financial, although since the resources available are limited, choices will inevitably have to be made: the cost also has to take into account the dangers run by deminers compared with the expected benefits of demining.

Still, there is a large consensus that in the field and in the text there should be a distinction between existing minefields laid, fenced and monitored by regular armies and mined areas where mines are suspected to be present. In practice, however, this distinction is sometimes very difficult to make. So we must be ready to recognize that some cases constitute a grey area.

On this topic it is also clear that all mines removed from minefields or mined areas will have to be destroyed as quickly as possible if that destruction has not been realized in the minefield itself.

Obviously, the destruction of mines already in place is a more difficult subject than the destruction of stockpiled mines. It will be an important subject of negotiations during the Oslo Conference.

The next topic which was discussed by delegations was international cooperation and assistance. This was mentioned in the Brussels Conference Declaration as an essential non-negotiable element of the global ban on anti-personnel landmines. It was recognized that if the ban on use and

production combined with the destruction of stocks could secure a better future, the purpose of the Ottawa Process was also to solve the consequences of the legacy of the past. To do so, international cooperation has been recognized not only as essential but also as indispensable. This cooperation will have to be multifaceted: exchanges of technologies, exchanges of demining teams will have to be part of it, but this will not suffice. Various delegations have shared their regional or national experience with the Conference. I recall for example the experience presented by Central American countries. International cooperation could also take the form of joint efforts for destruction of stocks or exchange of geographical data about previously laid minefields.

The necessity and the difficulties of finding the financial resources were also stressed by many delegations. The international community will have to encourage its members to do more and to coordinate its efforts.

This concern is embodied in the draft text which has guided our work. It seems, however, that here again there is still considerable work to be done, because to deal with the unfortunate legacy of anti-personnel mines will demand substantial sacrifices on all sides. Aid to victims should be an integral part of this process. We had been able, not just through our discussions, but also through the showing of videos and our visit to the very interesting exhibition at the Musée de l'Armée, to get an idea of the extent of the tragedy and of the difficulty and the urgent necessity of finding solutions to it that are both humane and effective.

The debate also focused on confidence-building measures, and more generally on the implementation of the treaty. Several delegations stressed that we should be guided first and foremost by humanitarian concerns. Others felt that even if the humanitarian dimension remained in the forefront, the disarmament aspects could not be ignored. That could have important implications for confidence-building and transparency measures.

The Austrian text provides for an exchange of information among States parties on the measures taken by each of them in pursuance of the treaty. The usefulness of such exchanges was generally recognized. The same text also proposes that figures should be supplied. How many anti-personnel mines have we? Of what type? How far have the destruction programmes got? Obviously, publication of such information would help to build confidence among States parties.

But some people want to go further and, following the logic of disarmament treaties, would like a more comprehensive system which would permit effective monitoring of the implementation of the Ottawa treaty.

On this matter, there could thus be a difference of opinion, and a choice will have to be made on the extent to which we recognize the disarmament dimension in the future treaty.

We ended with a presentation of the Oslo Conference by the Norwegian delegation, which enlightened us all about the immediate future of the Ottawa Process. All the comments made over the past two days have in fact been put forward in that perspective and will therefore have been very useful.

The adoption of the Brussels Declaration tomorrow will be an essential element in the process. The Declaration mentions the main points in the treaty, fixes the date for its signature and transmits the Austrian draft to the Oslo Conference. In this Declaration, we shall thus have defined the objectives of the negotiations, the basis on which they are to be conducted and the date by which they are to reach a conclusion.

I would appeal for as many delegations as possible to associate themselves with this Declaration, which is truly the key to the final negotiations.

I thus conclude my report on the first two days of the Brussels Conference and have pleasure in giving the floor back to the Minister.

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1468
22 July 1997

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A COPY OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ON THE "ISSUE OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO REACH A TOTAL BAN", AND THE REPORT ON THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN EXPERTS ON LANDMINES HELD IN KEMPTON PARK, SOUTH AFRICA, FROM 19-21 MAY 1997

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Issue of Anti-Personnel Mines and International Efforts to Reach a Total Ban (Doc.CM/2009(LXVI) and the report on the first Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines held in Kempton Park, South Africa, from 19-21 May 1997.

I should be grateful if the enclosed documents are circulated as official documents of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed): T J B Jokonya
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

GE.97-63420

"CM/Dec.363 (LXVI) - Report of the Secretary-General on the Issue of Anti-Personnel Mines and International Efforts to Reach a Total Ban (Doc. CM/2009(LXVI

Council:

(a) **TAKES NOTE** of the Report.

(b) **REAFFIRMS** all its previous resolutions on the question of anti-personnel mines, especially resolutions CM/Res.1593 (LXII) and CM/Res.1628 (LXIII);

(c) **ENDORSES** the Plan of Action adopted by the First continental conference of African Mine Experts held in Kempton Park, South Africa, from 19 to 21 May 1997, and **COMMENDS** the OAU Secretary-General for this laudable initiative in that connection;

(d) **RECOGNIZES** the contribution of the establishment of sub-regional anti-personnel mines free-zones to the ultimate goal of achieving a total ban at the level of the African Continent;

(e) **STRESSES** the need that the problem of mines be addressed in a coordinated, multi-faceted and balanced manner banning comprehensively anti-personnel mines and intensifying efforts and actions with regard to mine-clearance and mine victim assistance especially in Africa;

(f) **ADOPTS** as a goal the elimination of anti-personnel mines in Africa and the establishment of Africa as an anti-personnel mines - Free Zone;

(g) **URGES** Member States to fully and actively participate in the Ottawa process, particularly the meetings scheduled for Brussels (24 - 27 June, 1997), Oslo (September 1997) and Ottawa at which a treaty for the total prohibition of anti-personnel mines is expected to be signed;

(h) **CALLS ON** all Member States to adhere as early as possible to the 1980 United Nations Convention on prohibition or restriction on the use of certain weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects, and its protocol II if they have not already done so, and **APPEALS** to all

Member States to adhere to the amended protocol II as well as the new Protocol IV on blinding laser weapons;

(i) **APPEALS** to the International Community to render to the affected African countries all necessary assistance to enable them to effectively carry out mine clearance and mine victim assistance operations, and facilitate implementation of the Kempton Park Plan of Action through increased mobilization of resources;

(j) **UNDERSCORES** the moral responsibility of the countries which masterminded the emplacement of mines in Africa during the Second World war and/or colonial conflicts and **URGES** the said countries to devote a part of their resources, in particular, a reasonable percentage of their military budget to mine clearance and assistance to mine victims in the affected African countries;

(k) **CALLS UPON** those countries responsible for infesting the African countries with mines to provide those affected countries with all necessary information on demining including data, technical assistance, assessment of surveys specially maps as well as the movement of illegal mine transfers;

(l) **REITERATES** the urgency and the need for inter-African cooperation in mine clearance and assistance to mine victims, and **EMPHASIZES** the primordial role to be played by the OAU in coordinating actions in those areas, as part of implementation of the plan of Action;

(m) **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to monitor implementation of the present resolution as well as the Kempton Park Plan of Action, and submit a report thereon to the next ordinary session of the Council of Ministers."

PLAN OF ACTION OF THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN EXPERTS ON LANDMINES

The first Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines was held in Kempton Park, the Republic of South Africa, from 19 to 21 May 1997. The Conference, which was attended by 40 Member States of the OAU, UN specialised agencies, a wide spectrum of representatives of the donor community and Non-Governmental Organizations, adopted the following Plan of Action:

I. ON POLICY ON LANDMINES

The Conference discussed African policies on anti-personnel landmines, the momentum towards a global ban on anti-personnel landmines, legal aspects of humanitarian law pertaining to landmines, landmine free-zones with reference to the Organization of American States (OAS) and an African landmine-free-zone.

Within the framework of the implementation of the relevant Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution, participants agreed:

1. To stress the need that the problem of landmines be addressed in a coordinated and multi-faceted manner banning comprehensively anti-personnel landmines and intensifying efforts with regard to mine-clearance and mine victim assistance.

2. To adopt as a goal the elimination of anti-personnel landmines in Africa and the establishment of Africa as an Anti-Personnel Landmine-Free-Zone.

3. All States should end all deployments of anti-personnel landmines and to establish national prohibitions such as those already adopted on the African continent on their use, production, stockpiling, transfer and their destruction.

4. Urged all States to participate actively in the Brussels Conference, 24-27 June 1997, the Oslo Conference in September 1997, which is integral to the process leading to the negotiation and signature of a legally binding international agreement to ban ant-personnel landmines in Ottawa in December 1997.

5. For those States which are not yet Parties, to adhere to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), including the Protocol II on landmines (as amended on 3 May 1996); for current States party to this Convention to adhere to its amended Protocol II at the earliest possible date to ensure its earliest possible entry into force.

6. To promote the strongest possible resolution on the banning of anti-personnel landmines to be considered by Heads of State

and Government at the OAU Summit Meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, 2-4 June 1997.

II. ON MINE CLEARANCE

The Conference discussed at length mine clearance issues which included the building of national capacities for mine clearance, setting local priorities, standards and technologies and inter-African cooperation.

Noting the crucial link between the drive for the total ban of mines and mine clearance, the participants agreed as follows:

1. In building capacity for mine clearance there is a need to create national, subregional and regional coordinating and strategic planning bodies. Subregional organizations such as SADC, IGAD and others and also the OAU could play such a role. Further, national capacities for mine clearance should be simple, manageable and sustainable.

2. The challenge in demining is the development of institutions rather than mine clearance itself; full attention should, therefore, be devoted to this task.

3. Data bases should be established at the national, sub-regional and regional levels; which would create the necessary management information system on the extent of mine problems, on techniques of demining, on results of demining, the assessment of surveys and the movement of illegal mine transfers.

4. At present demining is a slow process - methods and technology must be created to increase the rate of demining; with regards to this, the need for the employment of integrated technology is of importance.

5. The task of mine clearance in Africa is so vast that the public sector and commercial enterprises should operate in parallel reinforcing each other's efforts. Further, the Armed Forces of African States should be allowed to play a proper role in demining.

6. There is a need to involve national authorities, at various levels in the building of national capacities.

7. In building capacities finance will be a critical constraint. Hence there is need to exert efforts to mobilize financial resources. But requests for financial assistance should be backed by appropriate project feasibility studies.

8. The aim of mine awareness should be to reduce mine risk through the adoption of sustainable safe behaviour, and to ensure the close involvement of the affected community and to

ensure that priorities in mine awareness programmes are set by the members of the community themselves; lessons learned and experiences gained must be institutionalized, and interactive communication must be adopted.

9. Efficient and effective demining efforts should be made to develop standards and guidelines for deminers and independent quality assurance and quality control established.

10. For successful demining inter-African cooperation is seen as a vital and a crucial element; such cooperation should cover such areas as political/diplomatic action, logistics, technical, financial, clearing operations, research and development as well as the transfer of technology.

III. ON LANDMINE SURVIVORS ASSISTANCE

The Conference discussed a wide range of issues relating to landmine survivors assistance. The following aspects, inter alia, were covered:

- Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration
- Training
- Resources: human, facilities, funds
- Development of (a) database(s)

Against the background of efforts to achieve a total ban on anti-personnel mines, and to clear Africa of existing landmines, the participants agreed as follows:

1. Governments in Africa, and the OAU, should address the plight of victims and survivors and take renewed cognizance of their problems with a view to meeting the health and social needs of all landmine survivors in Africa.

2. To be optimally effective in bringing more and higher quality assistance to landmine survivors in the long term, a structured flow and analysis of information about the entire mine problem in any given country was needed.

3. Priorities for the allocation of scarce resources amongst mine clearance projects, community mine awareness programmes, and the provision for the health and social needs of landmine survivors can only be set by cooperative and coordinated efforts on the part of:

   - Local authorities and national governments
   - The OAU and its specialised agencies, such as ARI
   - The UN system and its agencies
   - The NGO community
   - The ICRC and National Red Crescent or Red Cross Societies.

4. To urge governments to adopt a policy aiming at the establishment of national Mine Information Systems.

5. To urge governments to include the active participation of landmine survivors in the formulation, the decision making process and the execution of national policy and legislation in respect of articles that affect them. Concomitantly, survivors should influence their governments' positions in the formulation of international humanitarian treaties.

6. To encourage communities and the health services of mine-infected countries to maintain and increase their readiness to deal with mine injuries long after armed conflict has ended, while building their social and institutional capacities to deal with an ever increasing number of disabled.

7. The relevant regional and national institutions to co-ordinate their efforts and to exchange information on their available medical facilities and capacities and to provide modes of accessing them through a central African clearing-house in order to improve and increase assistance to landmine survivors.

8. To increase support to all training centres and institutes for the combined or joint use of all medical, social, psychological and other relevant measures and to organise regular regional and continental training sessions for civilian and/or military health workers on the treatment and rehabilitation of the mine-injured.

9. In order to meet the psychological and social needs of mine survivors, Governments should quantify the numbers of survivors and encourage local NGOs or National Red Cross/Red Crescent societies to initiate appropriate programmes, with the support of international partners, to increase access to medical care and rehabilitation for all victims and survivors in countries at war or affected by landmines in the post-conflictual period.

10. Governments should establish national Support Funds for landmine survivors and international donors should contribute to these Funds.

IV. ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FINANCE

On international cooperation and finance, the Conference:

1. Reiterated the appeal of the OAU to the International Community, International financial agencies, and the private sector working in the military field to provide African countries affected by mines with all the necessary assistance for the demining of their countries. As an essential component of the efforts towards the elimination of mines,

this assistance should comprise financial and technical components as well as the training of deminers.

2. Underscored the moral responsibility of the powers which laid the mines during the Second World War and independence wars, and wished that these powers should devote a reasonable percentage of their military budget to mine clearance in the concerned African countries.

3. Underlined the need for international cooperation, including close South South cooperation, in order to support effort towards demining and assistance to victims with a view to accelerating the realisation of the objectives of total elimination of mines.

4. Requested the General Secretariat of the OAU, bearing in mind the experience of other International Organisations, to establish a mechanism to enhance the mobilisation of International Community so as to assist the African countries affected by anti-personnel landmines.

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1469
24 July 1997

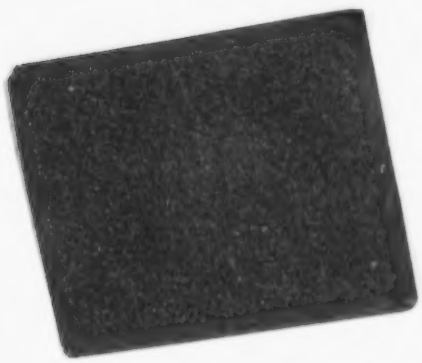
Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA ON 18 JULY 1997 CONCERNING THE SUBCRITICAL NUCLEAR WEAPON EXPERIMENT CONDUCTED BY THE US GOVERNMENT ON 2 JULY 1997

I have the honour to forward herewith the unofficial translation of the Press Release issued by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on 18 July 1997 concerning the subcritical nuclear weapon experiment conducted by the US Government on 2 July 1997.

I would be grateful if this Press Release could be registered as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed for information to all members and non-members States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed) : Agus Tarmidizi
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Unofficial Translation

PRESS RELEASE

1. The Government of the Republic Indonesia expresses its deep concern over the subcritical underground nuclear weapon experiment conducted by the US administration on 2 July 1997. Even though in legal terms such an experiment is not prohibited by the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), signed on 24 September 1996, the conduct of that experiment is in principle inconsistent with the "faith and spirit" enshrined in the treaty. Furthermore, such an experiment is not conducive to the ongoing efforts to achieve a general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, which in this post Cold War era is being consistently pursued by all nations.

2. Although the experiment was said to be primarily aimed at enhancing safety and reliability, its other purpose was undoubtedly to increase the quality of the existing nuclear weapons. The conduct of such an experiment could encourage other technologically advanced countries to follow suit and would therefore undermine the objective and purpose of the CTBT. All the signatory states of the CTBT admitted that the ultimate goals of this treaty are to limit the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons, to end the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, to contribute to the prevention of nuclear proliferation and to strengthen international peace and security.

3. During the early stages of the CTBT negotiations, the government of Indonesia had firmly stated its position that the treaty should also cover the prohibition of subcritical experiment. However, in the spirit of compromise and for the sake of consensus Indonesia had eventually withdrawn this position. Therefore such an experiment whisch had been carried out undermined Indonesia's spirit of cooperation which was clearly evident during the conclusion of the CTBT negotiation.

4. In view of the above, the government of the Republic of Indonesia appeals to the US administration to reconsider its decision and to cancel the series of such subcritical experiments which had been planned. At the same time the government of Indonesia also appeals to other countries to apply self-restraint in this matter. Indonesia is fully confident that the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation as well as complete nuclear disarmament can be achieved only with full commitment and good-will of all states, in particular the nuclear weapon states.

Jakarta, 18 July 1997

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1470
5 August 1997

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA ADDRESSED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A PUBLICATION ENTITLED "CONFIDENCE BUILDING IN THE ARMS CONTROL PROCESS: A TRANSFORMATION VIEW" BY JAMES MACINTOSH 1/

I have the honour to transmit to you a new Canadian publication, entitled "Confidence Building in the Arms Control Process: A Transformation View" by James MacIntosh.

I would be grateful if the necessary arrangements could be made for its distribution to all member and participating non-member state delegations, under cover of a CD number.

(Signed): Mark Moher
Permanent Representative to
the Conference on Disarmament

1/ A limited distribution of these publications in English only has been made available to the members and non-members invited to participate in the work of the Conference on Disarmament

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1471
5 August 1997

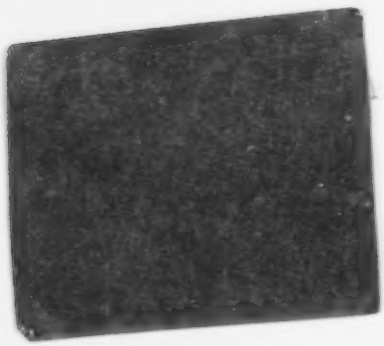
Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA ADDRESSED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A PUBLICATION ENTITLED "NON-PROLIFERATION AGREEMENTS, ARRANGEMENTS AND RESPONSES: PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1996 CANADIAN NON-PROLIFERATION WORKSHOP" BY THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY STUDIES, YORK UNIVERSITY, TORONTO (CANADA)1/

I have the honour to transmit to you a new Canadian publication, entitled "Non-Proliferation Agreements, Arrangements and Responses: Proceedings of the 1996 Canadian Non-Proliferation Workshop" by the Centre for International and Security Studies, York University, Toronto (Canada).

I would be grateful if the necessary arrangements could be made for its distribution to all member and participating non-member state delegations, under cover of a CD number.

(Signed): Mark Moher
Permanent Representative to
the Conference on Disarmament



1/ A limited distribution of these publications in English only has been made available to the members and non-members invited to participate in the work of the Conference on Disarmament

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1472
13 August 1997

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH and RUSSIAN

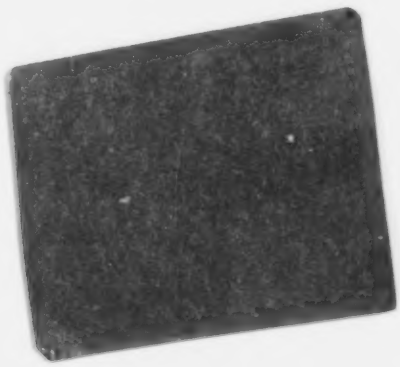
NOTE VERBALE DATED 13 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKSTAN ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKSTAN ON THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION OF EXPORT OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakstan to the United Nations Office in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to inform the latter of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Kazakstan dated 6 August 1997, concerning the prohibition of export of anti-personnel landmines, including re-export and transit.

Kazakstan shares the grave concern of many within the international community over the long-term and pernicious effects of the widespread use of anti-personnel mines.

The need to mobilize the international community to address this issue is widely recognized and Kazakstan has consistently supported the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly calling for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel mines.

The Office of the Permanent Mission of Kazakstan would be grateful if the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakstan concerning this decision could be registered as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed for information to all member and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.



Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Kazakstan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is authorized to state that by a resolution dated 6 August 1997 the Government of the Republic of Kazakstan has imposed a ban on the export of anti-personnel landmines, including re-export and transit.

Kazakstan shares the growing concern of the international community at the huge losses caused among the civilian population through the use of anti-personnel mines. In over 70 different countries, 110 million mines are still maiming and killing the civilian population every day. That is why anti-personnel mines have been dubbed "delayed-action weapons of mass destruction".

This serious problem, which is worldwide in scope, can only find a solution through joint international action to limit the use of anti-personnel mines and access to them, and in due course to forbid their use.

The unilateral moratorium introduced by the Government of the Republic of Kazakstan provides support for the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and is an expression of our country's commitment to the cause of strengthening international peace and security.

Almaty, 11 August 1997

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1473
15 August 1997

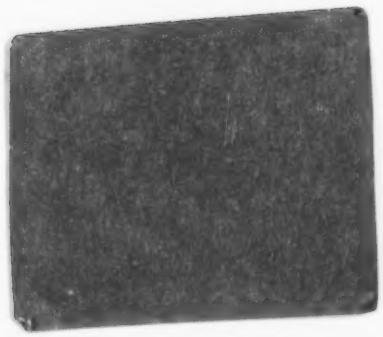
Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF A PROPOSAL ENTITLED: "SUGGESTIONS FOR UPDATING THE CD's RULES OF PROCEDURE", INCLUDING A "PROPOSED DRAFT"

Attached is the text of a proposal of Chile entitled: "Suggestions for updating the CD's Rules of Procedure", including a "Proposed Draft".

I would be grateful if you would issue this text as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distribute it to all member States and non-member participants in the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed): Javier Illanes
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



GE 97-63799

CHILE

Suggestions for updating the CD's Rules of Procedure

The origins of the Conference on Disarmament are implicit in the decision adopted in 1959 by the foreign affairs ministers of France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in order to establish a negotiating forum, independent of the United Nations system, but linked to it. The ten Nations Disarmament Committee (TNDC) (5 NATO - 5 WARSAW PACT) only briefly operated in 1960.

The actual history of the Conference originates, moreover, with the UN General Assembly resolutions (1722 XVI) (2602 B XXIV) and (A/37/99 K III) which contribute to the gradual expansion in its composition and to the evolution of its structure and functions: the Eighteen nations (ENDC) the 26 of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD) and the 40 of the Conference on Disarmament (CD).

The first procedural arrangements, from the time of the ENDC, consisted in recommendations coordinated by the co-Chairmen (USA-USSR) and it was Mexico's privilege to initiate a critical review of the foundations of the process of international disarmament. Between 1969 and 1973, the Mexican delegation introduced at least 5 working documents on organizational matters.

The Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral global disarmament body of the international community, recognized and made provision throughout its history for enhanced participation by its own member States and by States not members of the Conference, but participating in its work, in the negotiation of disarmament treaties and other international agreements intended to attract universal adherence.

Some of the more substantive working papers on this issue were produced by the Group of Eight (CD/550), by Sweden (CD/554), by Nigeria (CD/555) and by Mexico (CD/561). The Swedish proposals crystallized in the present articles 33, 34 and 35 of the Rules of Procedure.

Starting from 1976, the Committee on Disarmament and its successor organs, adopted a series of decisions on organizational matters which have, to a certain extent, been codified in the present Rules of Procedure. Quite often, however, the Rules of Procedure, due to their brevity, fail to capture the full scope of the decisions listed below:

- Decision CCD/500 (1 July 1976) on the structure and content of reports, including the annual report to the UN General Assembly. At the same time and during the same 708 CCD meeting, some groundwork was done on the subsidiary bodies being established for the ENMOD Convention and subsequent treaties to be negotiated.

- Decision CCD/532 (21 April 1977). When it appears that there is basis to negotiate a draft treaty, a working group open to CCD members will be established and appropriate documentation will be sent to all member States of the UN.

- At the 69th Plenary meeting on 17 March 1980 (CD/PV.69), it was agreed that representatives of non-member States shall have seats reserved for discussions concerning security assurances and a comprehensive disarmament programme. Such decision preceded the adoption of the Rules of Procedure under the Argentine presidency.

- At the 86th Plenary meeting on 24 June 1980 (CD/PV.86), it was decided that States not members of the Conference may participate in the informal expert meetings on chemical weapons (Denmark, Finland and Switzerland participated in this subsidiary body.

- At the 92nd Plenary meeting on 15 July 1980 (CD/PV.92), it was agreed that States not members of the CD but members of the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific

Experts may participate in the meeting called to examine the Ad Hoc Group's Report.

- At the 575th Plenary meeting on 21 August 1990 (CD/PV.575), it was decided that Rules 7, 9 and 28 of the Rules of Procedure would be amended and action would be taken on the Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament.

- At the 603rd Plenary meeting on 22 August 1991 (CD/PV.603), the Presidential Statement defined the current practice on participation by States not members of the Conference on Disarmament in the work of the Conference.

Since 1991, there have been few innovations in the CD practice and participation by non-member States in the negotiation of the CTBT has been based on the precedent established by the negotiation of the CWC. Nevertheless, UN General Assembly resolutions and decisions concerning expansion of the Conferences (CD/1356 and CD/1360) would be taken into account when rewriting the Rules of Procedure. In other aspects, such as the relationship to the whole of the UN system and to non-governmental organizations, the CD has been particularly insensitive to the significant developments which have taken place in those fields.

There are many reasons to justify a review of its Rules of Procedure by the Conference on Disarmament. Although the corpus of those rules is substantially sound, many aspects correspond to the "Cold War" concepts which no longer stand unchallenged, such as the notion that the CD is "a disarmament negotiating forum open to the nuclear weapon States and 35 other States". Within such a framework, it is hardly conceivable that the issues of nuclear disarmament may be avoided by the CD. The proposal is made that no specific or separate identity should be attributed to members; that the review process should include the current practice on the matter; and that Rule 3 should be transferred as a "chapeau" Section VII (Conduct of Work and adoption of decisions) where it may find a more congenial home.

Only minor changes affect Section II (Representation and Accreditation). While the authority of the Minister of Foreign Affairs has been maintained, subsequent changes in the composition of delegations may be notified by their respective Heads. This procedure follows the one recently agreed in the CWC. Procedures concerning accreditation of States not members of the CD have been included also in this Section, since they are identical to those applicable to CD member States.

There are no changes ion Section III (Sessions). The contents of Decision CD/1036 concerning intersessional consultations after the end of the annual session have been incorporated at the end of Section IV (Presidency). Section V (Secretariat) remains unchanged.

Order and structure of subsequent Sections VI, VII and VIII have been altered, with the aim to initiate the sequence of the process with the adoption of the Agenda and programme of work; then lay the basic rules for the conduct of work and adoption of decisions, which are of a broader nature and scope than the single rule of consensus; and finally proceed with the more detailed material, practical and organizational aspects of the CD's work. A limited amount of additions refer to preparatory work, consultations and the schedule of activities which should not be ignored in the range of subjects contemplated in the programme of work.

There is, however, a new approach in the proposed opening of negotiating organs or bodies to non-members participating in the work of the Conference when "it clearly appears that there is a basis to negotiate a draft treaty ...". Such approach is tempered by a new rule concerning the application of the CD's Rules of Procedure, or any ad hoc procedure to a subsidiary body whose composition would be larger than the actual CD membership. The flexibility allowed by the present Rule 24 has been adapted to the needs of the new Rule 32, with the intent of reconciling the need for universality in the negotiating process of disarmament treaties and the retention of

sufficient authority by the CD on the conduct of its work.

Section IX (Participation by States not members of the Conference) has been streamlined and updated with the current practice of the Conference following the Presidential Statement of 1991. As is known, present Rules 32 and 36 reflect the concept of shared responsibility and the inherent right of every State member of the UN to participate in disarmament affairs (Paragraph 28 of the Final Document of the I Extraordinary Period of Sessions of the UGA); the identity of the procedures of accreditation for members and non members alike and the concern to allow sufficient space for non-members in plenary and other meetings reminds us that, as a matter of principle, the right to attend the CD plenaries belongs to every State member of the UN.

Such right may be exercised at any time and is not subject to any CD decision. Nevertheless, specific modalities for participation of non-member States are set out under Rules 33 to 35. Under the final paragraph of Decision CD/1036, the Secretariat is called upon to inform non-member States before the beginning of the annual session of the Conference's opening date, in order to enable interested States to formulate their requests in time for participation in the work of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies. The Secretariat performs this duty with a perfunctionary reference to Rules 33 to 35 which the actual practice of the Conference has made obsolete or inapplicable.

Rules 33 and 34 are now obsolete since it is not practical to restrict discussions concerning issues raised by documents or proposals introduced by non-members; or to follow more of less elaborate procedures in order to grant requests for oral interventions by those non-members. Rule 35 has also evolved in the context of the Presidential Statement of 1991 and a decision ad casus is no longer taken, being replaced by a single decision allowing for broad participation of the requesting State in all meetings. While an attempt is made to codify actual practice in matters concerning participation, the need to clearly distinguish such modalities of participation from the right of any State to attend CD Plenaries has been preserved and further spelled out.

No changes have been introduced in Section X (Languages, records and documents). It is true that CD decisions have dealt, to a certain extent, with the modalities of CD communiques. Although we have, in some instances, introduced language from CD decisions which had not been included in the present Rules of Procedure, we have refrained from doing so in this specific matter, considering that the actual practice and prerogatives of CD Presidents may lead towards a more flexible path. However, this issue is linked to that of verbatim records and the CD Report, and may deserve further attention.

Sections XI (Invitations to organs of the UN system) and XII (Non-governmental organizations) have been redrafted. The first one, in order to introduce appropriate hierarchy and purpose and respond better to the intent of the heading, duly taking into account the realities of the international disarmament regime; the second, in order to recognize, in a prudent but more realistic manner, the importance of NGO's in disarmament affairs, an issue which the CD has addressed recently but in an inconclusive way.

Changes in Section XIII (Reports to the United Nations General Assembly) do not affect the existing structure of the Section but incorporate elements which contribute to stress the continuity in CD work. Section XIV (Amendments) remains untouched.

Except for a slight reformulation of Rule 21 (new Rule 27) no attempt has been made to modify the rule of consensus. We are attracted to the proposal by the former Representative of Japan to introduce a distinction between matters of substance and matters of procedure. The Representative of Mexico has mentioned an old proposal by the G-21 in that direction., But the rule of consensus is enshrined in the actual text of the Rules of Procedure, in an interpretative statement and rooted in the tradition of CD practice. Performance of other bodies, such as the Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, which also operate under the rule of consensus but very seldom explicitly veto a proposal, should be closely studied and analyzed.

The Chilean Delegation is introducing this modified draft of the Rules of Procedure as a basis for future discussion in the CD, and as a contribution to the work entrusted to the Coordinator appointed for the Improved and effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament.

PROPOSED DRAFT

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONFERENCE

ON DISARMAMENT

INTRODUCTION

These Rules of Procedure were adopted taking into account the relevant provisions of the final document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, including the agreement reached following appropriate consultations among the member States during that session which the General Assembly welcomed in the final Document. They have been subsequently reviewed following the expansion of the membership of the Conference on disarmament and the further development of procedures with a view to facilitate and enhance participation of States not members of the Conference, independent experts and other organs of the United Nations system.

I. Functions and Membership.

1. The Conference on disarmament (hereinafter referred to as the Conference) is the single multilateral global disarmament negotiating body of the international community.

2. The membership of the Conference includes the (sixty) (sixty-one) countries listed in anne I. *

3. The membership of the Conference will be reviewed at regular intervals following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference at the end of its annual session. The results of the review process shall be included in the report submitted to the United Nations General Assembly.

II. Representation and accreditation

4. (Idem to present 4)

5. Each delegation shall be accredited by a letter on the authority of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the member State, addressed to the President of the Conference. Subsequent changes in the composition of delegations to the Conference may be notified to the President of the Conference by their respective Heads.

6. The provisions of Rules 3 and 4 shall apply to the delegations of States not members of the Conference participating in its annual session.

7. (Idem to present 6).

8. Delegations of States not members of the Conference shall be seated following the English alphabetical list, beginning with the non-member whose name will be drawn by lots by the President of the Conference and shall rotate at the same time as the States members of the Conference.

III. Sessions

9. (Idem to present 7).

10. (Idem to present 8).

IV. Presidency

11. (Idem to present 9).

12. (Idem to present 10).

13. (Idem to present 11).

14. (Idem to present 12).

15. The representative of the member State who presided over the last plenary meeting at the end of the annual session of the Conference and the representative of the member State assuming the Presidency next in order of rotation shall jointly conduct consultations during the inter-sessional period between the two annual sessions in order to facilitate consensus on the adoption of the agenda, the establishment of subsidiary bodies and their mandates.

V. Secretariat

16. (Idem to present 13).

17. (Idem to present 14).

18. (Idem to present 15).

19. (Idem to present 16).

VI. Agenda and programme of work.

20. At the beginning of each annual session, the Conference shall adopt its agenda for the year. In doing so, the Conference shall take into account the recommendations made to it by the General Assembly, the proposals presented by member States of the Conference and the decisions of the Conference, as well as any preparatory work done to that end during its previous session and the results of the consultations carried on intersessionally in conformity with Rule 15.

21. On the basis of its agenda, the Conference, at the beginning of its annual session, shall establish its programme of work which will include a schedule of its activities to that session, structures to indicate with flexibility the range of subjects to which references would primarily be made in plenaries, taking also into account the recommendations, proposals, decisions, as well as the preparatory work and the consultations referred to in Rules 15 and 20.

22. (Idem to present 29).

23. The subject of statements made in plenary meetings will normally correspond to the topic then under discussion in accordance with the agreed programme of work and schedule of its activities for the current annual session. However, it is the right of any member State of the Conference to raise any subject relevant to the work of the Conference at any plenary meeting and to have full opportunity of presenting its views on any subject which it may consider to merit attention.

24. (Idem to present 31).

VII. Conduct of work and adoption of decisions.

25. (Idem to present 3).

26. (Idem to present 18).

27. If consensus is not attainable when an item comes up for decision, the Conference shall consider the subsequent examination of that item and make every effort to facilitate the achievement of consensus (Reformulation of Rule 21).

28. (Idem to present 25).

VIII. Organization of the work.

29. (Idem to present 19).

30. The Conference may decide to establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the effective performance of its functions. The Conference shall define the mandate for each subsidiary body and provide appropriate support for its work.

31. In case of absence of consensus on the establishment of any particular subsidiary body or its mandate, and after the expiration of the time allocated to debate the relevant proposal for such a subsidiary group or its mandate, the President of the Conference shall proceed to identify a Special Coordinator or a Friend of the Chair to assist in carrying out informal consultations with a view to reaching consensus.

32. Whenever the Conference deems its advisable, including when it clearly appears that there is a basis to negotiate a draft treaty or other texts or agreements requiring universal adherence, the Conference may decide that the negotiating organs or bodies be opened, in addition to all States members of the Conference, to States not members but participating in the work of the Conference.

33. The Conference may then decide if its own rules of procedure may be adapted to the specific requirement of a subsidiary body, taking into account i.a. the circumstances contemplated in the preceding rule.

34. (Idem to present 26).

IX. Participation by States not members of the Conference.

35. Representatives of States not members of the Conference may attend plenary meetings and, if the Conference so decides, other meetings.

36. The Conference may invite States not members of the Conference, on request, to participate in its work. Unless decided otherwise by the Conference, these States may participate in plenary meetings, informal plenary meetings on substantive items of the agenda, and meetings of subsidiary bodies established in accordance with Rule 30, without having to specify in advance which ones.

37. The Secretariat shall inform States not members of the Conference before the commencement of each annual session of the Conference's opening date, in order to enable interested States to attend the plenary meetings if they so wish, and to formulate in a timely manner their requests for participation in the work of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies.

38. Interested States not members of the Conference may submit to the Conference written proposals or working documents on measures of disarmament that are subject to negotiations in the Conference.

39. States not members of the Conference may express their views in the plenary pursuant to the established list of speakers. When the particular concerns of a State not member of the Conference are under discussion in any of its organs or subsidiary bodies, the Conference shall invite that State as soon as it has taken cognizance of a request to that effect.

X. Languages, records and documents.

40. (Idem to present 37).

41. (Idem to present 38).

42. (Idem to present 39).

43. (Idem to present 40).

XI. Invitations to organs of the United Nations system.

44. The Conference may decide to invite the UNIDIR and other organs of the United Nations system, the IAEA as well as specialized agencies, and the secretariats of the appropriate bodies of disarmament organizations and agreements to provide information which may benefit its work.

XII. Non-governmental Organizations.

45. Non-governmental organizations may circulate documents and address communications to the Conference. The Secretariat shall periodically update and circulate a list of such documents and communications.

XIII. Reports to the United Nations General Assembly

46. (Idem to present 43).

47. (Idem to present 44).

48. All reports of the Conference shall be factual and fully reflect the negotiations and the work of the Conference.

49. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, the annual report shall contain i.a. :

a) (idem to present a of 45).
b) " " " b " "
c) " " " c " "
d) " " " d " "
e) " " " e " "
f) working papers and proposals submitted during the year, with reference to items comprised in a. en b. above and other matters raised in the Conference during the year.
g) Verbatim records of the meetings held during the year, to be included in a separate Anne.
h) Any preparatory work done by the Conference on the agenda of the following year.
i) (idem to present h of 45).

XIV. Amendments

50. (Idem to present 47)

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1474
27 August 1997

Original: ENGLISH

CHILE, POLAND

Anti-personnel Landmines

1. We express our recognition and support to the objectives of humanitarian nature pursued by the "Ottawa process", which encompasses the concern of the international community for eliminating anti-personnel landmines, thus reducing the great number of innocent people who fall every year a victim of this type of weapons.

2. We think that the Convention which, as an outcome of this process, will be adopted by the Oslo Conference, would contribute to the achievement of this noble objective.

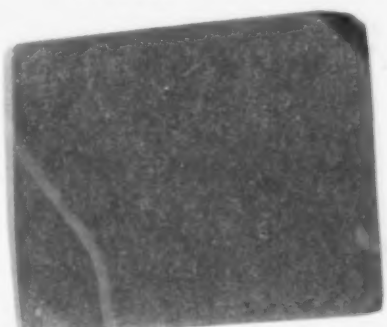
3. At the same time we are convinced that the subject of anti-personnel landmines includes important aspects which can best be addressed by the specialized negotiating forum of the Conference on Disarmament.

We believe that the Conference on Disarmament through the consideration and negotiation of agreements complementary to, consistent with and mutually supportive of the one to be concluded in Ottawa, can make a significant contribution to reaching the goals of the United Nations on this matter.

We agree that achieving universal support for such a goal should be a paramount objective, the attainment of which is possible through a negotiating process in which due consideration can be given to national security concerns of involved parties.

4. It was with this in mind that we made a proposal to the Conference, on 27 March 1997, that led to the appointment of a Special Coordinator to hold consultations on a possible mandate for negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament on the question of anti-personnel landmines. We commend him for his diligent work so far. Given the short period which he has had available for his consultations, and the need to take account of work proceeding on this issue outside the Conference on Disarmament, it is clear that he will not be in a position to present his final recommendations to the Conference before the end of this year's session. We would, therefore, strongly support the continuation of his consultations during the intersessional period and the presentation of a final report at the start of the 1998 session of the Conference on Disarmament.

G-.97-63906



CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1475
9 September 1997

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

MEXICO

Statement on the question of consultations by the Special Coordinator on anti-personnel landmines in the Conference on Disarmament

The delegation of Mexico wishes to state that in the opinion of the Mexican Government, the consultations by the Special Coordinator on anti-personnel landmines constitute a procedural matter and do not form part of the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament.

GE.97-64149 (E)

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1476
9 September 1997

Original: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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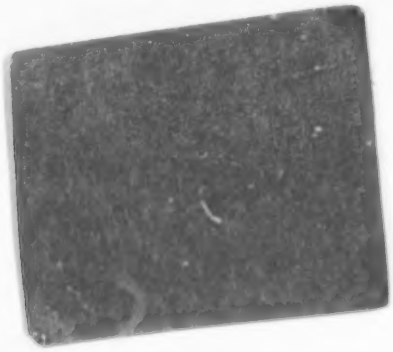

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the fifty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly its annual report on its 1997 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

A. 1997 Session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 20 January to 27 March, 12 May to 27 June and 28 July to 10 September 1997. During this period, the Conference held 28 formal plenary meetings, at which member States as well as non-member States invited to participate in the discussions set forth their views and recommendations on the various questions before the Conference.

3. The Conference also held 31 informal meetings on its agenda, programme of work, organization and procedures, as well as on items of its agenda and other matters.

4. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the following member States assumed successively the Presidency of the Conference: Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia and Sri Lanka. */

B. Participants in the Work of the Conference

5. Representatives of the following member States participated in the work of the Conference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba,

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*/ See CD/PV.774.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

C. Agenda and Programme of Work for the 1997 Session

6. At the 755th plenary meeting on 14 February 1997, the Conference adopted its agenda for the 1997 session in conformity with the rules of procedure. The agenda (CD/1446) reads as follows:

"Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and pending the conclusion of its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 1997 session:

1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
7. Transparency in armaments.
8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

7. After the adoption of the agenda, the President made the following

statement: "In connection with the adoption of this agenda, I, as the President of the CD, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda".

8. Throughout the session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on the programme of work. However, it was not possible to establish any negotiating mechanism on any of the substantive items on the agenda, nor to establish any other mechanisms, apart from the appointment of the four Special Coordinators mentioned below. Also, during plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations expressed their views on the issue. These are duly reflected in plenary records.

9. The following documents relating to the issue were presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1450, dated 20 March 1997, submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, entitled "Proposal on The Programme of Work".

(b) CD/1456, dated 15 May 1997, submitted by the delegation of Canada, entitled "Views on the Conference on Disarmament's agenda and programme of work".

(c) CD/1462, dated 5 June 1997, submitted by the Group of 21, entitled "Proposal on the Programme of Work"

10. At the 770th plenary meeting on 26 June 1997, the Conference appointed Ambassador John Campbell of Australia as Special Coordinator to conduct consultations on a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines under agenda item 6 on the basis of the decision (CD/1466) which reads as follows:

"Without prejudice to, and within the context of, its urgent ongoing efforts to establish a Programme of Work for its 1997 session

and to set up mechanisms, as appropriate, for other agenda items of the Conference, and in order to facilitate these efforts, the Conference on Disarmament decides:

1. To appoint a Special Coordinator to conduct consultations on a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines under agenda item 6.

2. The Special Coordinator shall take into consideration all relevant proposals and views, present and future.

3. The Special Coordinator shall present an early report to the Conference on Disarmament."

At the same plenary meeting, the Conference appointed Ambassador Harald Kreid of Austria as Special Coordinator on the question of the expansion of its membership, Ambassador Mounir Zahran of Egypt as Special Coordinator on its improved and effective functioning and Ambassador Péter Náray of Hungary as Special Coordinator on the review of its agenda.

D. Attendance and Participation of States not Members of the Conference

11. In conformity with rule 32 of the rules of procedure, the States not members of the Conference listed under the following paragraph attended its plenary meetings.

12. The Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from States not members of the Conference. In accordance with the rules of procedure and its decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference invited the following non-member States to participate in its work: Armenia, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Iceland, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Nepal, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia,

Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

E. Expansion of the Membership of the Conference

13. The importance attached to the question of the expansion of its membership was duly recognized by the Conference and is reflected in the statements made by delegations in plenary meetings.

14. Requests for membership had been received, since 1982, from the following non-members, in chronological order: Ireland, Tunisia, Ecuador, Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Malaysia, Costa Rica, Denmark, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Kazakstan, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay and Philippines.

15. The following documents relating to the issue were presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1438 and Corr.1, dated 25 November 1996, entitled "Letter dated 23 October 1996 addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament from the Permanent Representative of Turkey".

(b) CD/1439, dated 13 December 1996, entitled "Letter addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus".

(c) CD/1448, dated 13 March 1997, entitled "Letter dated 11 March 1997 addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations Office in Geneva transmitting a letter by H.E. Zoran Thaler Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia to the 1997 session of the Conference on Disarmament".

16. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator held a number of bilateral and open-ended consultations with members and participating non-

members of the Conference, and presented his report in a statement at the 776th plenary meeting on 28 August 1997 (CD/PV.776).

F. Review of the Agenda of the Conference

17. The Conference continued to attach importance to the review of its agenda. The issue was addressed by delegations in plenary as well as in informal meetings. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator held a number of bilateral and open-ended consultations with members and participating non-members of the Conference, and presented his report in a statement at the 776th plenary meeting on 28 August 1997 (CD/PV.776).

G. Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference

18. The Conference continued to recognize the importance of its improved and effective functioning. The issue was addressed by delegations in plenary as well as in informal meetings.

19. The following document relating to the issue was presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1473, dated 14 August 1997, entitled "Letter dated 14 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Chile addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a proposal entitled: 'Suggestions for Updating the CD's Rules of Procedure', including a 'Proposed draft'".

20. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator held a number of bilateral and open-ended consultations with members and participating non-members of the Conference, and presented his report in a statement at the 776th plenary meeting on 28 August 1997(CD/PV.776).

III. SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE DURING ITS 1997 SESSION

21. The substantive work of the Conference during its 1997 session was based on its agenda and related to its programme of work. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are included as appendix I to the report. An index of the verbatim records by country and subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 1997, and the verbatim records of the meetings of the Conference, are attached as appendix II to the report.

22. The Conference had before it a letter dated 9 January 1997 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (CD/1440) transmitting all the resolutions dealing with or related to disarmament and international security adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session in 1996, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament:

51/37 "Prohibition of the development, and manufacture of new types of weapon of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons" (operative paras. 2 and 5)

51/43 "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (operative paras. 2, 4 and 5)

51/44 "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (operative paras. 5, 6 and 8)

51/45 E "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of the agreements on disarmament and arms control" (operative paras. 1 and 2)

51/45 H "Transparency in armaments" (operative para. 5)

51/45 I "Bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament" (operative paras. 5 and 6)

51/45 J "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes" (operative paras. 1, 4 and 5)

51/45 K "Regional disarmament" (operative para. 1)

51/45 O "Nuclear disarmament" (operative paras. 5 and 6)

51/45 Q "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels" (operative para. 2)

51/46 D "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (operative paras. 1 and 2)

51/47 A "Expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament" (operative paras. 1 and 2)

51/47 B "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (operative para. 5)

51/47 C "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (operative paras. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8)

23. At its 753rd plenary meeting on 30 January 1997 the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Conference. On this occasion, he stressed the importance he attached to the work of the Conference as the sole multilateral forum for negotiating measures of disarmament and its role in advancing one of the fundamental objectives of the United Nations: the maintenance of international peace and security.

A. Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and Nuclear Disarmament

24. The Conference did not establish any Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during its 1997 session. Several proposals were made under this agenda item. A number of delegations proposed the reestablishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or

other nuclear explosive devices. Other delegations proposed that an Ad Hoc Committee be established on nuclear disarmament, under which the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be included. Other proposals were made for the appointment of a special coordinator on nuclear disarmament.

25. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the plenary records of this session as well as in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraphs 41-56 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173) and related official documents and working papers.

Proposals for the "Prohibition of the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices"

26. At the 770th plenary meeting on 26 June 1997, the delegation of Germany, drawing on earlier statements of several representatives of other Member States, proposed the reestablishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator on this subject and the mandate contained therein (CD/1299).

27. This proposal did not command consensus and the Conference did not reestablish an Ad Hoc Committee on this issue during its 1997 session.

28. The following documents dealing with this issue were presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1441, dated 22 January 1997, entitled "Letter dated 21 January 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a statement by President Clinton for the opening of the 1997 session of the Conference on Disarmament".

(b) CD/1456, dated 15 May 1997, submitted by the delegation of Canada, entitled "Views on the Conference on Disarmament's agenda and programme of work".

Proposals for the "Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and Nuclear Disarmament"

29. At the 766th plenary meeting on 5 June 1997, the Group of 21, supported by a number of other delegations, submitted a Programme of Work for the Conference for its 1997 session (CD/1462) which, inter alia, called for the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on agenda item 1 "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament".

30. At the 767th plenary meeting on 12 June 1997, twenty-six delegations belonging to the Group of 21, supported by a number of other delegations, submitted a proposal (CD/1463) for a mandate for an ad hoc committee under agenda item 1 on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time envisaging the creation of Working Groups to negotiate (a) as a first step a universal and legally-binding multilateral agreement committing all States to the objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, (b) an agreement on further steps required in a phased programme with time frames leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and (c) a convention on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices taking into account the report of the special coordinator on this item (CD/1299) and the views relating to the scope of the treaty.

31. These proposals did not command consensus and the Conference did not establish an Ad Hoc Committee under this agenda item during the 1997 session to deal with any of the issues.

32. At the 755th plenary meeting on 13 February 1997, the delegation of Japan presented a proposal for the appointment of a special coordinator on nuclear disarmament (CD/1445).

33. At the 761st plenary meeting on 20 March 1997, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran presented a proposal on the programme of work of the Conference which, inter alia, proposed the appointment of a special coordinator to seek the views of its members on the most appropriate arrangement to deal with the issues under agenda item 1 (CD/1450).

34. At the 763rd plenary meeting on 15 May 1997, the delegation of Egypt presented a proposal for a possible mandate of an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament (CD/1453).

35. These proposals were not put for a decision by the Conference.

36. In addition to the documents referred to above, the following documents were submitted to the Conference under the agenda item:

(a) CD/1456, dated 15 May 1997, submitted by the delegation of Canada, entitled "Views on the Conference on Disarmament's agenda and programme of work".

(b) CD/1457 and Corr.1, dated 15 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 15 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of India addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the section on 'Disarmament and International Security' of the Final Document adopted at the XII Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi, 7-8 April 1997".

(c) CD/1460, dated 26 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 14 May 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of the United States of America and the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting four documents signed at the Joint U.S.-Russian Summit Meeting held in Helsinki, Finland, on 21 March 1997, namely: A Joint Statement on Parameters on Future Reductions in Nuclear Forces, A Joint Statement by the Presidents of the United States of America and the Russian Federation concerning the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, A Joint U.S.-Russian statement on European Security and A Joint Statement on Chemical Weapons".

B. Prevention of Nuclear War, including all Related Matters

37. The Conference on Disarmament did not establish an Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during the 1997 session. No new documents were submitted to the Conference specifically under the agenda item during the 1997 session.

38. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraphs 62-71 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173), related official documents and working papers, as well as plenary records.

C. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

39. The Conference on Disarmament did not reestablish an Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during its 1997 session. No new documents were submitted to the Conference specifically under the agenda item during the 1997 session.

40. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the plenary records of this session, as well as in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraph 32 of the 1994 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1281) and related official documents and working papers.

D. Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons

41. The Conference did not reestablish the Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during its 1997 session. No new documents were submitted to the Conference specifically under the agenda item during the 1997 session.

42. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed

descriptions of which were duly recorded in the plenary records of this session, as well as in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraph 33 of the 1994 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1281)and related official documents and working papers.

E. New Types of Weapons of Mass Destruction and New Systems of Such Weapons; Radiological Weapons

43. The Conference did not establish an Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during the 1997 session. During plenary meetings of the Conference, some delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the previous annual reports of the Conference, related official documents and working papers, as well as plenary records. The status of work on the agenda item is reflected in paragraphs 79-82 of the 1992 report of the Conference to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173).

F. Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament

44. The Conference did not establish an Ad Hoc Committee on this agenda item during the 1997 session. During plenary meetings of the Conference, some delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraphs 83-89 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173), related official documents and working papers, as well as plenary records.

Proposals for "a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines"

45. In the course of the 1997 session of the Conference, proposals were presented, supported by a number of other delegations, for a draft mandate for an Ad Hoc Committee on a "Ban on Antipersonnel Landmines". These proposals were as follows:

- CD/1443, dated 30 January 1997, submitted by the delegation of the

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, entitled "Proposal for a draft mandate for an Ad Hoc Committee on a 'Ban on anti-personnel landmines'"

- CD/1455, dated 15 May 1997, submitted by the delegations of Hungary and Japan, entitled "Draft mandate for an Ad Hoc Committee on a 'Ban on Anti-Personnel Landmines'".

46. These proposals were not put for a decision by the Conference.

47. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations elaborated their respective positions on this issue, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

48. In addition to the documents mentioned in paragraph 45, the following documents dealing with this issue were presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1441, dated 22 January 1997, entitled "Letter dated 21 January 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a statement by President Clinton for the opening of the 1997 session of the Conference on Disarmament".

(b) CD/1442, dated 22 January 1997, entitled "Letter dated 21 January 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a statement by the Press Secretary of The White House and a Fact Sheet on the United States' initiatives on anti-personnel landmines".

(c) CD/1444, dated 4 February 1997, entitled "Letter dated 29 January 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference from the Permanent Representative of Austria transmitting the 'Federal Law on the Ban of Anti-Personnel Mines' adopted by the Austrian Parliament".

(d) CD/1450, dated 20 March 1997, submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, entitled "Proposal on The Programme of Work".

(e) CD/1451, dated 26 March 1997, entitled "Letter dated 24 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a press statement dated 20 February 1997 by the Minister of Defence concerning the policy of the South African Government on anti-personnel landmines and the message from President Mandela to the Fourth International NGO Conference on Landmines, Maputo, 25 to 28 February 1997".

(f) CD/1452, dated 27 March 1997, submitted by the delegations of Chile, Finland and Poland, entitled "Proposal to appoint a Special Coordinator on Anti-Personnel Landmines".

(g) CD/1456, dated 15 May 1997, submitted by the delegation of Canada, entitled "Views on the Conference on Disarmament's agenda and programme of work".

(h) CD/1458, dated 22 May 1997, submitted by the delegation of Australia entitled "Draft decision".

(i) CD/1459, dated 22 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 21 May 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, transmitting a summary of the International Expert Meeting on Possible Verification Measures for a Convention to Ban Anti-Personnel Landmines, held in Königswinter, Germany, on 24 and 25 April 1997".

(j) CD/1461, dated 28 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 22 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Canada addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting two publications entitled 'Small Arms and Light Weapons: An Annotated Bibliography' and 'Anti-Personnel Land Mines Ban: An Annotated Bibliography'".

(k) CD/1462, dated 5 June 1997, submitted by the Group of 21, entitled "Proposal on the Programme of Work".

(l) CD/1464, dated 17 June 1997, entitled "Letter dated 17 June 1997

from the Permanent Representative of Italy addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a statement of the Italian Government on the policy of anti-personnel landmines issued on 13 June 1997".

(m) CD/1465, dated 19 June 1997, submitted by the delegation of Australia, entitled "Draft decision".

(n) CD/1467, dated 16 July 1997, entitled "Letter dated 9 July 1997 addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament by the Office of the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the Conference on Disarmament, transmitting the Closing Document of the Brussels International Conference for a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines".

(o) CD/1468, dated 22 July 1997, entitled "Letter dated 15 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zimbabwe addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a copy of the Report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity on the 'Issue of Anti-Personnel Landmines and International Efforts to Reach a Total Ban', and the Report on the First Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines held in Kempton Park, South Africa, from 19-21 May 1997".

(p) CD/1472, dated 13 August 1997, entitled "Note verbale dated 13 August 1997 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakstan addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakstan on the decision of the Government concerning the prohibition of export of anti-personnel landmines".

(q) CD/1474, dated 27 August 1997, submitted by the delegations of Chile and Poland, entitled "Anti-personnel Landmines".

(r) CD/1475, dated 9 September 1997, submitted by the delegation of Mexico, entitled "Declaration on the question of the consultations by the Special Coordinator on Anti-Personnel Landmines in the Conference on Disarmament".

49. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator appointed to conduct consultations on a possible mandate on the question of anti-personnel landmines held a number of bilateral consultations and presented his reports in statements made on 14 August and 28 August 1997 respectively (CD/PV.774 and CD/PV.776).

G. Transparency in Armaments

50. The Conference did not reestablish an ad hoc committee on this agenda item during its 1997 session. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, the detailed descriptions of which were duly recorded in the plenary records of this session, as well as in the previous annual reports of the Conference, in particular paragraph 36 of the 1994 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1281)and related official documents and working papers.

51. The following document dealing with this issue was presented to the Conference:

(a) CD/1450, dated 20 March 1997, submitted by the del gation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, entitled "Proposal on The Programme of Work".

H. Consideration of Other Areas Dealing with the Cessation of the Arms Race and Disarmament and Other Relevant Measures

52. During its 1997 session, the Conference also had before it the following documents:

(a) CD/1437, dated 8 October 1996, entitled "Letter dated 3 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakstan addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a statement made at Almaty on 27 September 1996 by the President of Kazakstan concerning the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty".

(b) CD/1447, dated 17 February 1997, entitled "Letter dated 17 February 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a copy of a Presidential statement issued in honour of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco".

(c) CD/1449, dated 18 March 1997, entitled "Letter dated 17 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a message from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament on the occasion of the accession of a representative of the Russian Federation to the post of President of the Conference on Disarmament".

(d) CD/1454, dated 13 May 1997, entitled "Letter from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a message from the President of the Russian Federation to the first session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and an appeal to the Conference from the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation".

(e) CD/1457 and Corr.1, dated 15 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 15 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of India addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the section on 'Disarmament and International Security' of the Final Document adopted at the XII Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi, 7-8 April 1997".

(f) CD/1460, dated 26 May 1997, entitled "Letter dated 14 May 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of the United States of America and the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting four documents signed at the Joint U.S.-Russian Summit Meeting held

the United States of America and the Russian Federation concerning the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, A Joint U.S.-Russian statement on European Security and A Joint Statement on Chemical Weapons".

(g) CD/1469, dated 24 July 1997, entitled "Letter dated 22 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a press release issued by the Government of Indonesia on 18 July 1997 concerning the subcritical nuclear weapon experiment conducted by the US Government on 2 July 1997".

(h) CD/1470, dated 5 August 1997, entitled "Letter dated 4 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Canada addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a publication entitled 'Confidence Building in the Arms Control Process: A Transformation View' by James Macintosh".

(i) CD/1471, dated 5 August 1997, entitled "Letter dated 4 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Canada addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a publication entitled "Non-Proliferation Agreements, Arrangements and Responses: Proceedings of the 1996 Canadian Non-Proliferation Workshop' by the Centre for International and Security Studies, York University, Toronto (Canada)".

I. Consideration and Adoption of the Annual Report of the Conference and any other Report as Appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

53. The Conference decided that the dates for its 1998 session would be:

First part: 19 January-27 March 1998

Second part: 11 May-26 June 1998

54. To promote substantive progress during its 1998 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and make recommendations, if possible, that could help to commence early work on various agenda items. These consultations may, inter alia, take into account views presented and discussions held in the 1997 session.

55. The annual report to the fifty-second session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as adopted by the Conference on 9 September 1997, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

Bernard Goonetilleke
Sri Lanka
President of the Conference

CD/1477

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CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1477
18 September 1997

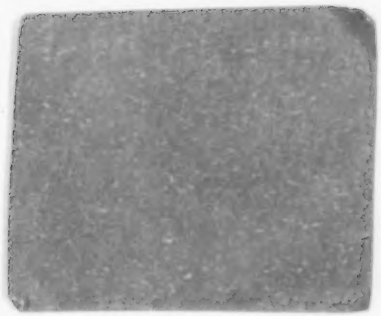
Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA ADDRESSED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE PUBLICATION ENTITLED "CYBERSPACE AND OUTER SPACE: TRANSITIONAL CHALLENGES FOR MULTILATERAL VERIFICATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY - PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL OTTAWA NACD VERIFICATION SYMPOSIUM" 1/

I have the honour to transmit to you a new Canadian publication, entitled "Cyberspace and Outer Space: Transitional Challenges for Multilateral Verification in the 21st Century - Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Ottawa NACD Verification Symposium" by J. Marshall Beier and Steven Mataija from the Centre for International and Security Studies, York University, Toronto.

I would be grateful if the necessary arrangements could be made for its distribution to all member and participating non-member state delegations, under cover of a CD number.

(Signed): Mark Moher
Permanent Representative to
the Conference on Disarmament



1/ A limited distribution of this publication in English only has been made available to the members and non-members invited to participate in the work of the